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Message Text

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64
ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 AF-10 ARA-16 EA-11 NEA-14 RSC-01

ACDA-19 AEC-11 SCI-06 FEA-02 AID-20 CEQ-02 CIAE-00

COA-02 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-11 EPA-04 INR-11 L-03

NSF-04 NSC-07 NSAE-00 PM-07 SS-20 SP-03 PA-04 PRS-01

USIA-15 DRC-01 /245 W
---------- 051662
P R 280122Z SEP 74
FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5751
INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
USMISSION GENEVA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE USUN 3497

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: SENV, UR, PARM

SUBJ: SOVIET PROPOSAL ON ENVIRONMENTAL MODIFICATION (ENMOD)

REF: USUN 3428; USUN 3432; USUN 3474

1. SOV AMB TO CCD ROSHCHIN CONFIRMED TO MISOFF SEP 27
THAT SOVS WILL MAKE SEPARATE SPEECH ON THEIR ENVIRONMENTAL
ITEM (ENMOD) EARLY IN THE FIRST COMMITTEE'S DISARMAMENT
DEBATE, AND WILL DEVOTE A SECOND SPEECH TO ALL OTHER DISARMAMENT
ITEMS. SOVIET PERM REP MALIK WILL DELIVER THE ADDRESS ON
ENMOD AND ROSHCHIN WILL DO THE OTHER ONE. THIS PARALLELS
SOV APPROACH LAST YEAR WHEN THEY AND MANY OF THEIR ALLIES
FIRST MADE SEPARATE AND EXTENSIVE INTEVENTIONS ON THE WORLD
DISARMAMENT CONFERENCE BEFORE DEALING WITH OTHER DISARMAMENT
MATTERS. CHAIRMAN ORTIZ DE ROZAS AT FIRST COMMITTEE
ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING SEPT 25 SAID HE WOULD FOLLOW PREVIOUS
PRACTICE WHEREBY DELEGATIONS MAY REFER TO EACH OR ALL OF
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THE DISARMAMENT ITEMS IN THE ORDER THEY DEEM APPROPRIATE.

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2. ROSHCHIN TOOK THE OPPORTUNITY TO SAY THAT SOVS VIEW
THEIR ENVIRONMENT PROPOSAL AS IMPORTANT AND AS OFFERING
UNIQUE CHANCE TO MAKE HEADWAY IN NEW FIELDS BEFORE TECHNOLOGY
HAS REALLY BEGUN TO DEVELOP AND VESTED INTERESTS
HAVE FORMED. HE CITED PROHIBITION OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS ON
THE SEA BED AS GOOD EXAMPLE OF WISDOM OF ANTICIPATING
PROBLEMS BEFORE THEY REALLY COME UP. HE SAID THAT SWEDEN
AND POLAND HAD REFERRED AT SUMMER CCD SESSION TO NEED FOR
ACTION ON ENVIRONMENT AND THAT OTHER DELEGATIONS WERE
INTERESTED. MISOFF MENTIONED OUR EXPECTATION THAT US-SOV
BILATERAL TALKS PROVIDED FOR IN SUMMIT AGREEMENT ON
ENVIRONMENTAL MODIFICATION WOULD TAKE PLACE BEFORE ANY
ACTION IS TAKEN ON SOV UN PROPOSAL. ROSHCHIN SAID SOVS
DID NOT VIEW THE TWO APPROACHES AS IN ANY WAY INCONSISTENT.

3. MAIN REACTION WE ARE HEARING SO FAR FROM DELEGATIONS
TO SOV DRAFT CONVENTION IS THAT IT LOOKS COMPLICATED
AND SEEMS TO REQUIRE STUDY BY GROUP SUCH AS CCD WITH TECHNICAL
EXPERTISE, AS INDEED DRAFT RES PROVIDES. SOV MISOFF TOLD
US SOVS HAVE NOW APPROACHED 96 GOVERNMENTS FOR THEIR
SUPPORT.

4. ALTHOUGH MUCH WILL BE HEARD ABOUT ENMOD IN EARLY DAYS
OF DISARMAMENT DEBATE NOW TENTATIVELY SCHEDULED TO
BEGIN OCT. 18, IS IS NOT YET CLEAR WHETHER SOVS WILL PRESS
FOR AN EARLY VOTE ON THE ITEM AND IT SEEMS LIKELY TO
US MANY DELEGATIONS WILL WANT AS MUCH TIME AS PISSIBLE
TO STUDY IT. BENNETT

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